

**DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES
FOSTER CARE MODEL**

Basic Level 1

CHARACTERISTIC S OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
Children age 0-17 • Show minor or transient episodes of emotional, behavioral or physical problems • Fall within normal developmental levels	Initial Assessment to include: • Physical exam • Developmental screening • Educational screening • Emotional health screening • Foster parent observation and assessment tools administered by foster parents • Team meeting to provide assessment information to foster care staff responsible for matching	Basic needs: • Food • Clothing • Shelter • Supervision • Protection (safety) • Nurturing • Stability • Self esteem • Sense of hope • Connection to birth family and significant others • Permanency • Independent living skills • Education • Each child's plan to meet needs will be individualized & determined by the assessment	Meet the child's basic needs (day to day) • Food, clothing, shelter • Supervision • Protection • Nurturing • Stability Meet developmental needs • Physical • Emotional • Educational • Cultural • Social • Spiritual developmental • Address delays • Support connections with birth family & significant others • Facilitate visits • Support permanency plan • Participate in team-planning meetings • Attend school meetings • Arrange medical & dental appointments • Maintain life book • Provide recreational activities • Participate with child in mental health counseling as appropriate • Transportation • Teach independent living skills	• Foster PRIDE • First Aid & CPR • Module I - meeting the developmental needs of children at risk (12 hours)	\$17/day • Medicaid (medical & dental coverage) • Foster Home Coordinator support • Mentors • Mental health counseling • Day care (employment related) • Respite care (10 days) • Funding for child's recreational, developmental activities • Crisis support after hours • Support group for children • Support group for foster families • In-home behavioral consultation as needed	• ↑ Availability of mental health • Counseling therapists trained in foster care and abuse/ neglect issues • ↑ Capacity for in-home consultations • ↑ Respite homes • ↑ Respite funds • ↑ Foster home coordinators for 1:24 • ↑ Crisis support after hours

Moderate Level 2

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children age 0-12 • Special education • Demands excessive attention • Mild to moderate developmental disabilities • Mild to moderate impulsive behavior and/or hyperactivity • Drug exposed babies • Emotionally disturbed, depressed, withdrawn • HIV (Symptomatic) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as for Level I • Ongoing assessment of child used in planning 2x year in team meeting • Physical exam (annual) • Dental exam (annual) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Level 1 plus • Additional supervision to keep child safe • Additional supports for education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Level I plus • Accompanies child to appointments • Increased school involvement • Assists in implementing treatment plan • Provides role model for child's family 	All of Level 1 plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IEP Process and how to access services • Surrogate parent training as needed • Medications • Special training as needed • 12 hours training per year 	\$25 day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Level 1 supports plus • Educational supports as needed • 15 days respite care • Access to doctors for medical review as needed • Training for staff re: IEP process and how to access treatment services • Additional caseworker support 	Same as Level 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ↑ Educational supports (tutoring)

Supports include those on previous page plus additional supports in the column.

Intensive Level 3

CHARACTERISTIC S OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
<p>Children age 0-17 Must exhibit at least 2 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate to severe developmental delays • Medical conditions needing constant caretaker attention and multiple doctor's visits (i.e., cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, etc.) • Severe impulsive and/or hyperactive behavior • Sexually abused • Encopretic • Eneuretic • Emotionally disturbed • May have had previous psychiatric hospitalizations • HIV (Symptomatic) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing assessment used in quarterly team meetings • Physical exam (annual) • Dental exam (annual) 	<p>All of Level 1,2 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster parents with skills to meet child's special needs • Additional supervision to keep child safe 	<p>All of Level 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent and close communication with caseworker and coordinator • Observes and documents behavioral/emotional functioning of child • Observes and documents patterns of behavior • Facilitates educational program • Facilitates behavioral change • Quarterly team reviews • Foster parent part of treatment team 	<p>All of Level 1,2 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 hours training per year • Other specialized training as needed • Sexual abuse • Universal precautions 	<p>\$35 a day All of Level 1&2 supports plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case worker/ coordinator support to child and foster family 2x month • Mental health services as needed; may include day hospital • Structured after school program/ activities • 21 day respite • Crisis respite beds • Aides for one-on-one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for caseworker and coordinators to meet special needs of Level 3 children • Structured after school programs for difficult children • Case aides • ↑ Caseworkers coordinator support • Crisis respite beds • Reduced caseload for caseworkers

Intensive Level 4

CHARACTERISTIC S OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
<p>Children aged 6 - 17 must exhibit at least 3 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate to severe developmental delays • Moderate to severe impulsive and/or hyperactive behavior • Sexually abused • Encopretic • Enueretic • May have had previous psychiatric hospitalizations or residential treatment • Episodes of delinquent behavior • Run away behaviors • Special ed. and/or other school problems • Episodes of depression and suicidal ideation • Pregnant teen or teen with baby 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing assessment of child used in quarterly team meetings 	<p>All of Level 1,2,3 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional supervision to keep child and others safe • More frequent more intensive therapy 	<p>All of Level 1,2,3 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates in multidisciplinary meetings • Emphasis is on helping child to function in a less intensive/ restrictive environment • Adapts home environment to meet child's needs 	<p>FOSTER PRIDE</p> <p>All of Level 1,2,3 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depression/ suicide • Specialized training as needed • 20 hours per year 	<p>\$45 per day</p> <p>All of Level 1,2,3 supports plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 2 foster children at this level • No more than 4 children total • 21 day respite • Day program for suspended youth needing supervision • Behavioral consultation • Increased caseworker and coordinator contacts (3x month) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured after school program/ activities • Day Program for youth when suspended • Behavioral consultants • Lower case loads for caseworkers and coordinators

Intensive Levels 5 (Step Down from RTC or Psychiatric Hospital)

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
<p>Children aged 8-17 Must exhibit at least 4 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runs away frequently • History of firesetting • History of suicide attempts • Delinquent behavior • Diagnosed as conduct disorder • School problems and/or truancy • Assaultive behavior • Drug/alcohol use interfering with daily activities • Inappropriate sexual behavior, promiscuity, prostitution • History of failed placements • History of inpatient or residential treatment • Pregnant or teen parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing assessment of child used in monthly team meeting 	<p>All of Level 1,2, 3,4 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional supervision to keep child and others safe • More frequent more intensive therapy as needed • Behavioral consultation • Gradual step down from RTC or psych-hospital • Aides • Wraparound services at time of placement • Crisis respite beds 	<p>All of Level 1,2,3,4 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 foster parent or other approved adult with the child at all times • Have authority to call staffing on child • Participates in monthly team reviews and treatment planning 	<p>All of Level 1-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restraint training/crisis intervention training • Additional training related to needs of child • 20 hours training per year 	<p>\$55/day</p> <p>All of Level 1,2,3,4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individualized solutions for those youth whose needs are complex and cannot be served within the other resource categories • One child per home • 4x month caseworker contact • Planned respite 30 days/yr. • Wraparound services in place at time of placement 	<p>All of Level 1,2,3,4 plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lower caseloads for caseworker & coordinator (to offer additional support)

EMERGENCY HOMES

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN	ASSESSMENT	CHILD'S NEEDS	SERVICES REQUIRED of the FOSTER FAMILY	TRAINING	SUPPORTS	SYSTEMS NEEDS
Children ages 0-17 who are entering family foster care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical and medical treatment as necessary Developmental screening Educational screening Emotional health screening Foster parent observation and assessment instruments administered by foster parents Additional testing as indicated Team meeting to provide assessment information to foster care staff matching needs of child to foster family skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assurance of physical safety Emotional support to child in trauma of separation from family Information about foster care and what will happen next Immediate medical needs met Visits with birth family Continuity for child as much as possible... same school community Complete assessment to determine needs and best placement At the same time foster family and professional staff are assessing needs of child, staff will assess family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengths Needs Risks Some prediction of length of placement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical safety of child Provide strong emotional support of child in trauma of separation from family Explain foster care to child in age-appropriate manner Transportation to/ support through emergency medical treatment Support connection with birth family by facilitating visits Maintain continuity for child as much as possible... school, friendships, etc. Assess child's needs through observation Administer assessment instruments Participate in meetings to assess and make recommendations for best placement Available by phone/pager at all times Accept youth of all ages/sex/ race for up to 14 days unless family safety is at risk Provides enriched environment and recreational opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three years experience as foster parent or comparable experience Foster PRIDE First Aid and CPR 45 hours of in-service training including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRIDE - Module I Sexual Abuse Teens Identifying developmental needs and delays Medications Depression/ suicide Specialized training in assessment 12 hours of in-service training per year required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-home consultation with behavioral specialist 24 hour crisis access Transportation (as back up) Foster Care team Caseworker contact - 1x/week Foster Home Coordinator contact 2x/month 5 days per month off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral consultants Financial support to recruit and train Foster parents for assessment homes Respite providers for this special population of children Assessment tools Access to evaluations as needed